



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES
RICHARD MILLER
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

STEVE ARWOOD
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H
Lansing, Michigan

STUDY SESSION MINUTES

April 2, 2014
9:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Timothy James, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
David Purchase, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Township Association
Richard Miller, State Fire Marshal, Council Member ex-Officio
Steve Richardson, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Brian Blomstrom, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union
Chad Tackett, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs

MEMBERS ABSENT-None

BFS STAFF PRESENT

Joseph Grutza, FFTD Manager
Paula Brzezinski, Curriculum Specialist
BreeAnn Hooker, Recording Secretary

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jeff Evans, Trenton Fire Department
Keith Anderson, Trenton Fire Department
Jeff Huber, Lansing Community College
John Pender, Orion Township Fire Department
Ed Switalski, Kalamazoo City Fire Department
James Edwards, Detroit Fire Department
Paul Wayco, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Tim Baker, Lansing Community College
Ray Wlosinski, Schoolcraft College
Martin Erskine, Calhoun County Training Council
Tim Smith, Calhoun County Training Council
Matt Majestic, Oakland Community College
Tim Smith, Pennfield Fire Department
Kevin Henderson, Canton Fire Department
Bill Race, Grand Rapids Fire Department

LARA is an equal opportunity employer

Auxiliary aids, services and other reasonable accommodations are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

3101 Technology Boulevard, Suite H • P.O. BOX 30700 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48910

www.michigan.gov/bfs • (517) 241-8847

Lee Finlayson, Grand Rapids Fire Department
Karl Holder, Rochester Hills Fire Department
Tony Kowalski, Macomb Community College

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairperson James called the work session for April 2, 2014 to order at 9:35 a.m. A quorum was determined present.

2. NEW BUSINESS

2014 Grant Applications

Manager Joseph Grutza reviewed approved funds from the initial \$95,000 Elective Training Grant Fund, the first being the Training Coordinator workshop with a cost of \$11,124. During the first round of grant applications, \$56,884 was awarded, \$26,992 being left minus approved curriculum committee expenses. Clarification was sought in regards to the discussions that took place to fund the drop-ins by the Training Coordinators to the classes. Councilperson James states that money was never intended for use by the council to pay for Training Coordinator expenses. Councilmember Purchase recalls this discussion and the agreement that this is not a firework fund responsibility; this is a responsibility of the state out of their budget. This fireworks money was meant to provide additional training opportunities to the firefighters and not to supplant money into the budget, which has already taken place. The Training Coordinator funds were not spent last year. Fire Marshal Miller states that he will find out the dollar amount left over from last year and the councilmembers feel that Fire Marshal Miller will have to manage spending the Training Coordinator funds. Councilperson Pettinger requests to review at the next meeting how many drop-ins we've had and how much has been spent and how much it has affected the budget.

It was reported that of the \$830,000 county funding, \$290,000 is left to be encumbered by May 1st. Councilperson Purchase would like to remind the council of his recommendation of putting instructor materials on an online system for all the instructors and to keep that in mind as we move forward with the grant approvals

Grant requests

Manager Grutza requested \$29,231, of that request, \$26,000 would be used to purchase 4 sets of NFPA 1001, 2013 fire fighter I/II DVD's. \$1,666 would be used to purchase the test bank for the NFPA 1001 2013 fire fighter I/II testing. \$1,425 would be used to send the curriculum specialist for training on entering the new examinations into LXR. Councilperson Purchase inquired if it this inquiry was requested in a budget proposal since there was advance notice of the approved changes by Council. Fire Marshal Miller states that this request was not included in any budget proposals to his knowledge. Chairperson James reminded Council that there has been a year and a half notice of preparation for this transition and inquired why there is no money at the state level to fund this.

Fire Marshal Miller asks to move this item to the next meeting, he would like to re-examine his budget and possibly moving money around under different line items to possibly fill this request, as far as purchasing the test banks and training seminar.

Discussions on Grants Requesting Use of County Allotment

14.23- Manistee Township Fire Department is requesting \$10,000 for a live fire training structure. The Fire Fighter Training Division shall send a letter stating the request will be put on hold and we request a letter of support and a funding agreement from their Revenue Sharing Board.

14.60- Confined Space Rescue Training is already a Council approved course. Chairperson James asked that there be an update on qualified instructors on the Bureau of Fire Services (BFS), Fire Fighter Training Division (FFTD) website.

14.61- Clarification is sought as to what HazMat class is being requested and what level of training are they training to, also, whether or not he is asking for County or Elective Training Funds.

14.64- John Hanmer is the County Training Chairperson and is requesting the funds for Ice Rescue Training. The Council inquires if the request is operational or training equipment. The money is to be used for Training and not Operations.

14.65- Clarification by Councilperson Steve Richardson to Vince Cammack as to mileage reimbursement if he drove a government issued vehicle.

Discussion on Grants Requesting Use of Elective Funds

14.20- Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs requests reimbursement which led Council to discuss establishing a cap on organization requests as well as cut off dates.

14.21- The Elective Training funds are specifically for training and not for fixing up buildings. Manager Grutza will develop a list on criteria involving this Grant Fund and things that qualify and things that do not.

14.22- There is a concern of setting a precedent using these funds to purchase electronic equipment. Guidelines should be set as far as upgrades, start up and capping the amount contributed toward these types of requests next Fiscal Year.

14.26- Council would like to see costs of providing online training videos for entire state. Ms. Brzezinski will provide a report.

14.28- Establish maximum conference reimbursement next Fiscal Year, adjust the county allotment to include the ability to send people to conferences and let the County Training Chair decide who's going and what conference they are going to. All to be run through IMS, preapproving the organizations and their conferences.

14.36- This appears to be more of a Legislative Summit. Council hopes to maintain core mission of using funds for fire fighter training.

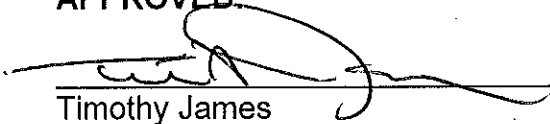
14.38- Cloud based system requested to enhance academies. The student tests at the end of each module and cannot move on until they pass that module which indicates this will most likely will be ran as a Challenge exam in Calhoun County.


14.44- Should actually be a county fund request, needs to be moved up between 3 and 4 for the regular meeting. LACK training has already been approved.

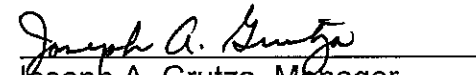
3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

APPROVED:


Timothy James
Chairperson


Councilperson


Joseph A. Grutza, Manager
Bureau of Fire Services
Fire Fighter Training Division